**Sample Research Notes**

Name: Carolyn Thompson

Topic: the Scandals of the Harding administration.

**Who was Warren Harding?**

* Republican
* Background: Ohio newspaper publisher. He died while in office in 1923. (*U.S. History: Preparing for the A.P. Exam* p. 471)

**What scandals was Harding involved in?**

* Teapot Dome Scandal:
  + It all started with the discovery of oil in Elk Hill California in 1912 and Teapot Dome in Wyoming. According to Taft, these discoveries were on federal land and were used to ([Spartacus](http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/USAteapot.htm)—10/9)
  + The Wall Street Journal broke the scandal on April 14, 1922. According to the Journal, Harding’s Secretary of the Interior, Albert Fall, had leased these oil fields to a private oil company without getting any bids. ([U.S. Senate](http://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/history/minute/Senate_Investigates_the_Teapot_Dome_Scandal.htm) --10/9)
  + In response to the Journal’s story, the Senate called for an investigation into the scandal. ([U.S. Senate](http://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/history/minute/Senate_Investigates_the_Teapot_Dome_Scandal.htm) --10/9)
  + Harding was never formally implicated in the scandal---he died before the investigation was finished. But his reputation was tainted because he had appointed Albert Fall. (*U.S. History: Preparing for the A.P. Exam* p. 471)

**What happened to Albert Fall?**

* He was Harding’s Secretary of the Interior---that’s the cabinet department that oversees federal land. He was convicted for the scandal and served time in jail. ([Miller Center for Public Affairs](http://millercenter.virginia.edu/Ampres/essays/harding/cabinet/478?PHPSESSID=5412f794736a135e1126884121591cf9) – 10/9)

**Ideas for Story**: Focus on the Senate investigation. Maybe present as a brief update in the On the Hill section---the senate is opening the hearings on Tea Pot Dome. Need to find out which Senators were leading the way on this investigation.

**Works Cited**

Newman, John J. and John M. Schmalbach. *United States History: Preparing for the A.P. Examination.* New York: AMSCO School Publications, Inc. , 2006.

**“**Albert Fall—Secretary of the Interior.” Warren Harding. 2007. Miller Center of Public Affairs. 09 October 2007. <http://millercenter.virginia.edu/Ampres/essays/harding/cabinet/478?PHPSESSID=5412f794736a135e1126884121591cf9>